

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A method of facilitating trading at a market that includes prices for a side and a contra-side of the market, the method comprising:

~~satisfying a condition at a market by a market participant, wherein the market includes receiving input at a market participant's computer, wherein the market participant [[and]] is a trading party participating in the market with other market participants, and wherein, for a potential trade, the market includes prices for a side and a contra side of the potential trade~~ the input satisfies a market-related condition, and

automatically, at the market participant's computer, receiving a new contra-side best market price in advance of the other market participants as a result of satisfying the market-related condition and only while the market-related condition ~~at the market~~ is satisfied by the market participant.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the satisfying and receiving are performed by a trading process.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the input satisfies the market-related condition [[is]] by providing the best market price for a side of the market.

4. (Currently amended) A method of facilitating trading at a market that includes prices for a side and a contra-side of ~~a potential trade~~ the market, the method comprising:

automatically, via a computer, selecting a party to receive notification of a new contra-side best market price in advance of other market participants, wherein the selected party is ~~a market participant~~ participating in [[a]] the market with the other market participants,

automatically, via the computer or another computer, notifying the selected party of the new contra-side best market price, and

automatically, via the computer or another computer, measuring a predetermined time from when notification of the new contra-side best market price was sent to the selected party and, after the predetermined time has elapsed, notifying the other market participants of the new contra-side best market price.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the selected party is a provider of a best market price for a side of the market.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising checking, via the computer or another computer, the identity of the selected party before notifying the selected party of the new contra-side best market price.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising checking, via the computer or another computer, a recently posted price to determine if the recently posted price is a new contra-side best market price.

8. (Currently amended) A system for facilitating trading at a market that includes prices for a side and a contra-side of ~~a potential trade~~ the market, comprising:

a computer having a processing component ~~that is~~ configured to select a party to receive notification of a new contra-side best market price in advance of other market participants, wherein the selected party is a market participant participating in ~~[[a]]~~ the market with the other market participants, and wherein the processing component ~~is further configured to measure~~ measures a predetermined time from when notification of a new contra-side best market price is sent to the selected party and, after the predetermined time has elapsed, ~~to notify~~ the processing component notifies the other market participants of the new contra-side best market price.

9. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the selected party is a provider of a best market price for a side of the market.

10. (Currently amended) The system of claim 9, wherein the processing component ~~is configured to notify~~ notifies the selected party of the new contra-side best market price in advance of the other market participants only while the price provided by the selected party remains the best market price for the side of the market.

11. (Previously presented) The system of claim 9, wherein the processing component is further configured to check a recently posted price for the side of the market to determine if the price is better than the price provided by the selected party, and if so, to replace the selected party with the provider of the recently posted price as a newly selected party to receive a new contra-side best market price in advance of the other market participants.

12. (Previously presented) The system of claim 8, wherein the processing component is configured to check a recently posted price to determine if the recently posted price is a new contra-side best market price before notification of the recently posted price is sent to a market participant.

13. (Currently amended) A computer-accessible medium having executable instructions stored thereon for facilitating trading, wherein the instructions, ~~when executed,~~ cause a computer to:

select a party to receive notification of a new contra-side best market price in advance of other market participants, wherein the selected party is a market participant participating in [[a]] the market with the other market participants, [[and]]

notify the selected party of the new contra-side best market price,

measure a predetermined time from when notification of [[a]] the new contra-side best market price is sent to the selected party, and[[,]]

after the predetermined time has elapsed, notify the other market participants of the new contra-side best market price.

14. (Previously presented) The computer-accessible medium of claim 13, wherein the selected party is a provider of a best market price for a side of the market.

15. (Previously presented) The computer-accessible medium of claim 14, wherein the instructions cause the computer to notify the selected party of the new contra-side best market price in advance of the other market participants only while the price provided by the selected party remains the best market price for the side of the market.

16. (Previously presented) The computer-accessible medium of claim 14, wherein the instructions cause the computer to check a recently posted price for the side of the market to determine if the price is better than the price provided by the selected party, and if so, to replace the selected party with the provider of the recently posted price as a newly selected party to receive a new contra-side best market price in advance of the other market participants.

17. (Previously presented) The computer-accessible medium of claim 13, wherein the instructions further cause the computer to check a recently posted price to determine if the recently posted price is a new contra-side best market price before sending notification of the recently posted price to a market participant.

18. (New) A computer-accessible medium having executable instructions stored thereon for facilitating trading at a market, the market having a best market price for a side of the market and a best market price for a contra-side of the market, wherein the instructions cause a computer providing the market to:

receive an order having a new price for a side of the market,

determine if the new price is better than the best market price for the side of the market,
and

when the new price is better than the best market price for the side of the market, the instructions further cause the computer to:

identify a trading party that is currently providing the best market price for the contra-side of the market, and

notify the trading party of the new price, wherein the notification is sent to the trading party in advance of sending notification of the new price to other market participants in the market such that the trading party is given a first look at the new price before the other market participants.

19. (New) The computer-accessible medium of claim 18, wherein the instructions further cause the computer to measure a predetermined time from when notification of the new price is sent to the trading party and, after the predetermined time has elapsed, to notify the other market participants parties of the new price.

20. (New) The computer-accessible medium of claim 18, wherein the instructions further cause the computer to send the notification of the new price to trading party only while the trading party is currently providing the best market price for the contra-side of the market.